

VZCZCXYZ0000  
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHPE #1699 2962359  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 222359Z OCT 08  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9479  
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY 2044  
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY 6079  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 7953  
RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY 3493  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY 1247  
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ OCT 5004  
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY 9596  
RUEHQD/AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY 2131  
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY 2036  
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 001699

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/22/2018

TAGS: PGOV PREL PINR PE

SUBJECT: SHINING PATH TERRORISTS ENTER CAMP OF US MINE,  
STEAL COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

Classified By: Amb. P Michael McKinley for reasons 1.4b and d.

¶1. (C/NF) According to press reports, a group of 30 to 50 armed Shining Path terrorists on October 20 entered the base camp of an exploration project operated by US mining firm Doe Run, located in a mountainous part of northern Ayacucho. Other sources said the terrorists gathered the mine workers, delivered political indoctrination speeches, took some communications equipment and food, and then departed. The terrorists did not harm or kidnap anyone. There were apparently no Americans on site at the time.

¶2. (C/NF) The Ambassador spoke October 22 with President of Doe Run Peru (strictly protect), who confirmed the Shining Path incursion. The Doe Run representative reported that over 90 armed men approached the camp; only 11 to 14 actually entered the camp while the rest maintained a security perimeter. A middle-aged man of around 40-50 years old led the group, which otherwise consisted of very young men. Some dressed in dark uniforms, others in civilian clothes, and several wore bullet-proof vests. They carried long-range weapons including one FAL gun, Galils, rifles, and two Instalaza grenade launchers. The terrorists presented themselves as members of the Marxist-Communist Party, gave a 25 minute lecture on their ideology, and said they wanted to speak with the company manager about the project's environmental, wage, and labor conditions. They did not physically threaten the workers during the incursion but warned that if the company brought police or military troops in for protection, the workers and local communities would suffer the consequences. The company president added that during the recent bilateral New Horizons humanitarian-military exercises in Ayacucho, Shining Path sent threatening messages to Doe Run several times.

MCKINLEY